EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

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Situation Report

Hurricane Katrina Support

September 8, 2005, 12:00 pm



The State of Missouri continues coordination with federal, state, local and non-profit agencies to provide support to relief efforts for people in areas adversely impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

The following actions have been taken by state agencies on behalf of Hurricane Katrina victims over the last 24 hours:

- Governor Blunt also has requested the President of the United States to declare an emergency for the State of Missouri as a result of the FEMA request to assist in the relocation of disaster victims from those states impacted by Hurricane Katrina to Missouri. 44 CFR 206.35.
- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) directed a hold on all plans to transfer evacuees from Texas to other states, though additional transfers from New Orleans continues. FEMA advises states that do not currently host evacuees to implement a standby position for all mass care preparations, unless they have been notified directly by FEMA to prepare for arrivals. SEMA has been notified by FEMA not to expect any evacuees today (9/8). FEMA expects to update the forecast late today or early tomorrow morning.
- SEMA is working the Missouri Governor's Disaster Recovery Partnership to start a "Call Center" at SEMA to handle the calls for donations and volunteers. The Call Center will work with other partners throughout the state to help the "self evacuees" that are arriving in the state. The Call Center will be staffed by trained volunteers and we plan to have it up and running sometime on Friday. We will be using a toll free number that will be posted to the SEMA website.
- SEMA is participating in daily conference calls with other state emergency management agencies within Region VII and a daily conference call with the Kansas City Urban Area Working Group.

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 SEMA is continuing Level 1 activation with additional staffing in the Control Room. However, operational hours have been reduced from 24/7 operations to 7:00 A.M. to midnight.

Donations management

The EOC has been receiving and recording calls (approximately 700) offering donation of goods and services since Tuesday Sept. 2nd. Those calls that could be diverted to specific registration lines, such as medical personnel, were referred. In all other cases the individuals were told that they would receive a call back regarding the disposition of their offer.

Sheltering Activities

SEMA is working diligently to identify the number of "self evacuees," however the system with the local Red Cross Chapters is not automated nor are the numbers tracked by the Faith Based Ministries. Additionally most of our contacts are not at their desk, but in the field working the sheltering activities. Over 5000 "self evacuees," have been identified. FEMA reported that 162 evacuees were flown into Illinois and are being processed at a facility in Alton.

St Louis Reception & Care Facility

Gary Christmann, Emergency Management Director for the City of St. Louis, conducts daily staff meetings at 8:00 A.M. Reports are given from each agency/organization present to address any new issues or needs they may have. No evacuees have arrived, but the reception facility is fully operational and on stand-by.

Operations Section: Safety issues are being addressed. A few cracks and breaks in the floor are being repaired. A lounge area is being set-up for the evacuees. The volunteers will be given a sheet of instructions that give them general safety guidelines. The volunteers will be told to not bring in anything that, if lost or dropped, could be used as a weapon. A suggestion was made to bring in a public address system to be used to announce medical emergencies (code blues) or other information. Gary Christmann said he could provide a PA system for the facility.

Planning Unit: The Incident Command System plan will have a few minor changes and be updated today. The plan of evacuation for fire & other hazards is still being developed that will address evacuation, and hazards such as tornados, fire, etc. A play area is set-up for the children of evacuees but is not to be used as a baby-sitting service. Parents cannot leave their children there without telling the supervisor where they are going and when they will return.

Medical Unit: Dr. Johnson from medical said four doctors that specialize in infectious disease/epidemiology will be here this morning. They are still trying to develop a plan of

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action of how to deal with patients who may need other outside medical care that they cannot provide here.

Social Services is operational. They are still working on procedures to coordinate assistance the evacuees may need with organizations outside the shelter.

American Red Cross: Currently, the Red Cross is planning to process the arrivals in the following manner: Upon arrival the individuals will be registered, a case file be initiated, their immediate needs will be met as far as possible, a local chapter will be identified to provide housing and additional services, and transportation to that chapter will be provided by the Salvation Army.

Logistics: Nextel phones that were donated will be distributed this morning for use within the facility. Requests for help using the tasking request forms is working well. Also an exterminator will be coming in to the facility today.

PIO: No media will be allowed in the facility after today. Any media interviews will be conducted outside the facility.

Department of Health and Senior Services Operation Show-Me Care Update

DHSS Situation Room: 1-800-392-0272)

- DSR activated
 - Nancy Bush is Commander
 - Bryant McNally is Co-Commander

SEMA EOC

Tricia Schlechte located at SEMA EOC.

Boeing Site prepared for reception of displaced persons

- DHSS staff in St Louis (onsite)
 - Bruce Clements (CERT Director), Mark Buxton, Martha Shea, Laura Kliethermes (PIO), Angela Ford and Mary Menges
 - Julie Eckstein (Director) is in Jefferson City and will be going to the site this afternoon.

Medical Supplies

 Cribs are at the O'Fallon Wal-Mart. SEMA is to arrange for pickup and delivery today.

Immunizations

• CDC's Updated Immunization Recommendations for Hurricane Displaced Persons has been sent out in a health update. DHSS' immunization program has sent out more technical guidance by email to LPHAs fielding guestions.

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Long-term Care

 DHSS continues to get offers for beds and licensed facilities for residential care and skilled beds. Community services employees are assisting in evaluating the displaced persons to identify if they need skilled care or residential care as they come into St. Louis

Legislative Update

 DHSS will be providing a written update to the Missouri General Assembly on the on the department's activities and its partners regarding Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

Response Resources

 DHSS developed a web-based database that will be used at the St. Louis Reception and Care Center to track updates and status of activities from other agencies involved, including state and local agencies, disaster response organizations, and emergency management agencies. The database will serve as a timeline and a way to share up-to-date critical information.

Another web-based database will be used by the response agencies involved to input information as persons arrive at the St. Louis Reception and Care Center. The database will include information on their health, counseling and social services needs, and Red Cross information. This will expedite the response to their need.

Department of Mental Health

The Department of Mental Health continues to prepare a response to the Katrina Evacuation effort. We have also received word that Missouri will be eligible for a FEMA – SAMHSA mental health crisis counseling program grant to assist with the effort. The grant will be due on November 17. Following is more detailed information regarding today's activities:

A number of contacts took place throughout the day to accomplish the following:

- Contacted Chuck Mays to see if Rene Ludwigs who is leading the mental health response in the St. Louis area can be invited to the daily staff meetings taking place at the reception center. We were given another contact for this.
- To get updated information about where the evacuees will be going when they leave the reception center. DMH needs this information when it is available to alert community mental health centers in the area and to establish needs assessment for the crisis counseling grant.
- Provided an update to Pathways Community Mental Health Center with what information is known.

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 Lynn Carter, the Coordinator of Disaster Readiness talked with DMH contractors and other agencies in an effort to coordinate the mental health response being provided through public and private agencies at the reception center. Lynn will travel to St. Louis tonight to be at the reception center tomorrow and the next day with Rene Ludwigs.

- DMH participated in a SAMHSA and FEMA conference call to discuss eligibility and requirements for a FEMA Crisis Counseling Program grant.
- DMH fiscal and data tracking staff met to discuss policy issues and procedures for Katrina Evacuees.
- DMH Senior Staff met to discuss service provision by the three Divisions services and any issues related to providing services to Hurricane Katrina Evacuees.